

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 43

By McNally

A RESOLUTION to recognize Louise McKown on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their years of public service; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable individual is Louise McKown, who, after more than a decade of serving as the Public Awareness Coordinator, Disability Policy Analyst, and Systems Change Advocate at East Tennessee Technology Access Center (ETTAC), will be taking a much deserved retirement; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at ETTAC, Louise McKown has served as media liaison, keeping the community informed about the activities and services provided by ETTAC; she has advised clients on funding sources for assistive technology devices and services; and she has visited various senior citizen agencies, demonstrating how assistive technology devices can improve seniors' quality of life; and

WHEREAS, for the past eight years, Ms. McKown has written a monthly article for *The Oak Ridger's* Senior Living section, totaling more than 100 articles on topics of interest to seniors and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, a trusted leader in her field, Louise McKown has served on several boards and committees that exist as advocates for disabled and elderly populations. She has held numerous leadership positions with Anderson County Commissioners' ADA Oversight Committee, Tennessee Disability Coalition, East Tennessee Council on Aging and Disability, and The Arc of Anderson County; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McKown has often been recognized for her exceptional contributions to her community; she was honored with the Tennessee Disability Coalition's Media Recognition Award for Best Opinion/Editorial Writing in 1997; Community Shares' Change of Heart Award and Tennessee Disability Coalition's VOTE! Project Leadership Award in 2004; American Bar Association's Commission on Mental Health and Physical Disability Law Paul G. Hearne Award and Anderson County Health Council's Community Hero Award in 2006; disAbility Resource Center Knoxville's Spirit of the ADA Award in 2011; and Tennessee Health Care Campaign's Gordon Bonnyman Advocacy Award in 2014; and

WHEREAS, Ms. McKown's own personal experience with disability has allowed her to serve people with disabilities and senior citizens of East Tennessee with empathy and sincere compassion; and

WHEREAS, a 1968 graduate of Oak Ridge High School, Louise McKown attended Marietta College in Marietta, Ohio, receiving her bachelor's degree in history and education from this institution in 1972; and

WHEREAS, Louise McKown exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout her estimable career, Ms. McKown has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the sincere respect and admiration of her colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Louise McKown our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.